UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.9
7 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 89 (b)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

Algeria*: draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/212 of 21 December 1990, 47/195 of 22 December 1992 and 48/189 of 21 December 1993,

Taking note of the reports of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change on its sixth to tenth sessions, 1/ as well as the report of the Secretary-General on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind, 2/

Welcoming the offer of the Government of Germany to host the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at Berlin from 28 March to 7 April 1995,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1/ A/AC.237/24, 31, 41, 55 and 76.

2/ A/49/485.

1. Welcomes the entry into force, on 21 March 1994, of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 3/ and notes with satisfaction that a large number of States and one regional economic integration organization have taken action to ratify the Convention, and calls upon other States to take appropriate action to that end;

2. Urges the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change to complete fully, at its eleventh session, which is to be held from 6 to 17 February 1995 in New York, its plan of preparatory work for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to provide, if possible, in the week preceding the eleventh session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, all necessary services to facilitate the adequate participation of all Member States in the consultation to be undertaken by the Chairman of the Committee during that week, as agreed by the Committee at its tenth session;

4. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to continue to promote cooperation and coordination with other competent entities, including those of the United Nations system, in support of the effective implementation of the Convention, aimed in particular at facilitating timely financial and technical assistance to developing country Parties to enable them to comply with their commitments under the Convention;

5. Takes note with appreciation of previous contributions made and invites additional contributions to the extrabudgetary funds established under paragraphs 10 and 20 of its resolution 45/212, and maintained in accordance with its resolution 47/195, as a means of ensuring that developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, as well as small island developing States, are able to participate fully and effectively in the negotiating process and in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the arrangements within the current programme budget for the interim secretariat support for the Convention until 31 December 1995, to maintain the above-mentioned extrabudgetary funds;

7. Decides, in the same context, to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1994-1995 the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties that the Conference may need to convene in 1995;

8. Decides to further consider the item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" at its fiftieth session, taking account of the final report of the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, as requested in paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 47/195, and of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its

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3/ A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

first session, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on any possible implications arising from the report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.10
4 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 89

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Georgia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America: draft resolution

Support for the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the continuing deterioration of the global environment at all levels, due to the impact of constantly increasing human activity, remains a serious concern requiring further attention, including enhanced awareness and intensified action,

Recalling its resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, in which it endorsed the results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, 1/

Noting, in particular, chapter 25 of Agenda 21 entitled "Children and youth in sustainable development", chapter 36 entitled "Promoting education, public awareness and training", and chapter 40 entitled "Information for decision-making", which call for greater efforts to involve youth, promote public awareness and enhance the collection and exchange of environmental data in support of the pursuit of sustainable development,

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum, resolution 1, annex II.

Noting the recent entry into force of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2/ and the Convention on Biological Diversity, 3/ the impending entry into force of the Convention on the Law of the Sea, 4/ and the recent successful conclusion of negotiations on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 5/ which require for their effective implementation much greater and more effective collection and exchange of relevant environmental data,

Recalling also its resolution 48/192 of 21 December 1993 on strengthening international cooperation in the monitoring of global environmental problems,

Convinced of the need to inspire the youth of the world with enthusiasm for the preservation and protection of the global environment, and to provide encouragement and support for their participation in that effort,

1. Welcomes the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme initiated by the Government of the United States of America on 22 April 1994, which aims to enhance the collective awareness of individuals throughout the world concerning the environment, increase scientific understanding of the Earth, and help all students reach the highest standards in science and mathematics education;

2. Welcomes also the willingness expressed by many Governments to participate with the Government of the United States in shaping and carrying out the GLOBE initiative;

3. Encourages Governments, organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to take part, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of the GLOBE initiative, with full regard for sovereign national rights and interests and within the respective mandates of the organs, organizations and programmes concerned;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that appropriate account is taken of the GLOBE initiative in the efforts of the United Nations system to support the implementation of Agenda 21, particularly in the coordinating functions of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

2/ A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

3/ See United Nations Environment Programme, Convention on Biological Diversity (Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

4/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.V.5.

5/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

5. Requests also that the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, in particular the Commission on Sustainable Development, take full account of the GLOBE initiative in reviewing and promoting the implementation of Agenda 21;

6. Requests further that the Secretary-General consider identifying an appropriate point of contact within the United Nations Secretariat to facilitate United Nations support for the GLOBE initiative;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the efforts of the United Nations system to support the GLOBE initiative.

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.10/Rev.1
29 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 89

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia: revised draft resolution

Support for the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the continuing deterioration of the global environment at all levels, due to the impact of constantly increasing human activity, remains a serious concern requiring further attention, including enhanced awareness and intensified action,

Recalling its resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, in which it endorsed the results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, 1/

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

Taking note of, in particular, chapter 25 of Agenda 21 entitled "Children and youth in sustainable development", chapter 36 entitled "Promoting education, public awareness and training", and chapter 40 entitled "Information for decision-making", which call for greater efforts to involve youth, promote public awareness and enhance the collection and exchange of environmental data in support of the pursuit of sustainable development,

Noting the recent entry into force of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2/ and the Convention on Biological Diversity, 3/ the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 4/ and the recent successful conclusion of negotiations on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 5/ which require for their effective implementation much greater and more effective collection and exchange of relevant environmental data,

Recalling its resolution 48/192 of 21 December 1993 on strengthening international cooperation in the monitoring of global environmental problems,

Convinced of the need to inspire the youth of the world with enthusiasm for the conservation, preservation and protection of all aspects of the global environment and in the pursuit of sustainable development, and to provide encouragement and support for their participation in that effort,

1. Welcomes the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme initiated by the Government of the United States of America on 22 April 1994, which aims to enhance the collective awareness of individuals throughout the world concerning the environment, increase scientific understanding of the Earth, and help all students reach the highest standards in science and mathematics education;

2. Also welcomes the willingness expressed by many Governments to participate in shaping and carrying out the GLOBE initiative;

3. Encourages Governments, organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to take part, as appropriate, in the development and

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2/ A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

3/ See United Nations Environment Programme, Convention on Biological Diversity (Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

4/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

5/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

implementation of the GLOBE initiative, with full regard for sovereign national rights and interests and within the respective mandates of the organs, organizations and programmes concerned, including in the pursuit of sustainable development;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that appropriate account is taken of the GLOBE initiative in the efforts of the United Nations system to support the implementation of Agenda 21, particularly in the coordinating functions of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

5. Requests that the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, in particular the Commission on Sustainable Development, take full account of the GLOBE initiative, within the context of sustainable development, in reviewing and promoting the implementation of Agenda 21;

6. Invites Governments to communicate information to the Commission on Sustainable Development, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/191, on their participation in the GLOBE programme within the implementation of Agenda 21, especially with regard to chapters 25, 36 and 40.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.11
7 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela: draft resolution

Question of declaring 1998 International Year of the Ocean

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/48 of 29 July 1994,

Proclaims 1998 International Year of the Ocean.

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UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.12
7 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 87 (c)

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS: EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT

Algeria* and Indonesia**: draft resolution

Enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989, 45/214 of 21 December 1991, 46/148 and 46/151 of 18 December 1991, 47/198 of 22 December 1992 and 48/182 of 22 December 1993,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993 on the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership and 48/166 of 21 December 1993 on an agenda for development,

Noting that, owing to uneven developments in the context of the evolving international debt strategy, further progress, including concrete measures and innovative approaches, is essential for the achievement of an effective, comprehensive, equitable, development-oriented and durable solution to the external debt problems of a large number of developing countries,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

Welcoming the efforts made by some developing countries to resolve their debt difficulties, while recognizing with deep concern that a large number of developing countries continue to face immense problems related to external debt,

Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-service problems of indebted developing countries, which adversely affect their development efforts and economic growth, and reiterating the need to address and resolve those problems through effective relief measures, including substantial debt-reduction measures, bearing in mind the special and critical situation of the most indebted developing countries in Africa and the least developed countries,

Stressing the importance of alleviating the onerous debt and debt-service burdens connected with all types of debt of developing countries, including multilateral debt, taking into account the urgent need for a once-and-for-all arrangement within the framework of an equitable and durable approach,

Emphasizing the importance for debtor developing countries of continuing to pursue and intensify their efforts with respect to economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes, in order to help raise savings and investments, reduce inflation and improve economic efficiency, taking into account the need to address the social aspects of development, including the eradication of poverty, and their individual characteristics, as well as the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations,

Expressing its concern that despite continuous and strenuous economic reforms implemented by many developing countries, the burden of debt and debt service continues to constitute one of the major obstacles to the revitalization of economic growth and development of those countries,

Noting that those developing countries that have continued, at great cost to themselves, to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion, have done so despite severe domestic financial constraints and an unfavourable external environment,

Stressing the need for global economic growth and the necessity of a supportive international economic environment with regard to, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access, trade practices, access to technology, exchange rates and international interest rates, and noting the continued need for resources for sustained economic growth and development of the developing countries,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the developing country debt situation as of mid-1994; 1/

2. Welcomes the results of the Ministerial Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries on Debt and Development, held at Jakarta from 13 to 15 August 1994, 2/

1/ A/49/338.

2/ A/49/367, annex I.

and recognizes that its findings and recommendations, inter alia, on the need to develop a once-and-for-all arrangement for settling all outstanding debt, including the application of a substantial reduction of all categories of debt, will greatly contribute to the achievement of an effective, comprehensive, equitable, development-oriented and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries;

3. Welcomes also the communiqué of the forty-ninth Meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries, and of the fifty-first Meeting of Ministers of the Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs with respect to the debt burden of the poorest and most indebted countries, and hopes that a reduction in the stock of debt and an increase in concessionality could be implemented expeditiously and extended to cover other indebted developing countries;

4. Takes note with interest of the communiqué of the Summit of the group of seven major industrialized countries, held at Naples, Italy, in July 1994, in which, inter alia, the World Bank and the regional development banks are called upon to strengthen their efforts to reinforce private capital flows to the developing countries and the Paris Club is encouraged to pursue its efforts to improve the debt treatment of the poorest and most indebted countries and, where appropriate, to reduce the stock of debt and to increase concessionality for those countries facing special difficulties; 3/

5. Emphasizes the importance for developing countries of continuing their efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment, thereby promoting economic growth and sustainable development, and stresses the need for the developed countries to create a conducive external economic environment through, inter alia, improved market access, stabilization of exchange rates, the lowering of international interests rates and increased resource flows, as well as improved access to technology for the developing countries;

6. Calls upon the international community to ensure that the full implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements benefits developing countries through, inter alia, an improvement in their market access and terms of trade, thereby allowing them to alleviate their debt problems; the compensatory measures should be implemented, including technical assistance, particularly for those developing countries negatively affected;

7. Welcomes the write-off by certain donors of a significant part of the bilateral official debt of the least developed countries, and urges those countries that have not yet done so to follow suit and, whenever possible, to cancel all bilateral debts of the African countries and the least developed countries;

3/ A/49/228-S/1994/827, annex I.

8. Calls upon the donor countries and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to consider appropriate new measures for substantial relief of the debt of low-income countries;

9. Calls upon private creditors and, in particular, commercial banks to renew and expand initiatives and efforts to tackle the commercial debt problems of the least developed countries and of low- and middle-income developing countries;

10. Notes with concern the continuing existence of the debt and debt-service burdens of middle-income countries, including, in particular, those in Africa, and calls upon donor countries, multilateral financial institutions and commercial banks to consider appropriate measures for substantial relief of the debt of those countries;

11. Stresses the need, in addition to debt-relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, for new financial flows to debtor developing countries, and urges the creditor countries and multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, in order to support the implementation of economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes and the eradication of poverty by the developing countries so as to enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and to assist them in achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

12. Stresses further the urgent need to continue to provide social safety nets to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economic reform programmes in the debtor countries, in particular low-income groups;

13. Recognizes the need to tackle the problem of multilateral debt of developing countries while enabling enhanced concessional flows through multilateral financial institutions;

14. Urges the international community to consider wider application of innovative measures, such as debt-for-equity, debt-for-nature and debt-for-social-development swaps, and, in addition, to consider also debt-for-investment swaps, without prejudice to more durable solutions such as debt reduction and/or cancellation;

15. Calls upon the international community, including the international financial institutions to explore ways of implementing additional and innovative measures to apply once-and-for-all arrangements, including substantial debt-reduction policies, to all categories of debt of the developing countries, including multilateral debt, to enable them to achieve sustained economic growth and development without falling into a new debt crisis;

16. Further calls upon the international community, including the relevant international institutions, to include the effort to solve the debt problems of developing countries in the elaboration of an agenda for development;

17. Urges creditor countries, private banks and, within their prerogatives, multilateral financial institutions to consider the extension of

appropriate new financial support to developing countries, in particular the low-income countries with substantial debt burdens that continue, at great cost, to service the debt and meet their international obligations;

18. Stresses the urgent need to forge a renewed partnership between donor countries, international financial institutions, multilateral agencies and developing countries to find new and innovative ways of mobilizing and allocating the resources needed to sustain the development efforts of developing countries, and recognizes that debt reduction can contribute effectively towards releasing domestic resources, currently diverted from priority areas of development to service debt, to sustain the developing countries' development efforts, in particular their social development efforts;

19. Calls upon the Secretary-General to build on the momentum gained since the Naples Summit of the group of seven major industrialized countries in order to move towards a comprehensive approach to the debt problem, to designate a high-level body or personalities to take the necessary steps to provide adequate follow-up and to report to the General Assembly during the first quarter of 1995 on progress made;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.13
7 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 89 (d)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY AFRICA

Algeria*: draft resolution

Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/172 of 19 December 1989, 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and other relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, and the recommendations made in Agenda 21, 1/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling also its resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, with a view to finalizing such a convention by June 1994,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference.

Recalling further its resolution 48/191 of 21 December 1993, by which it urged the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to complete its negotiations by June 1994,

Noting that, in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, 2/ adopted in Paris, on 17 June 1994, article 35 provides that secretariat functions will be carried out on an interim basis by the secretariat established by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/188 until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties; and also noting that in paragraph 4 of its resolution 5/2, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee requested the Secretary-General to make proposals enabling the secretariat established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/188 to continue its activities on an interim basis, until the permanent secretariat of the Convention is designated by the Conference of the Parties, 3/

Acknowledging with appreciation the support provided for the operation of the secretariat during 1994 by the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Sahelian Office, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations regional commissions, and bilateral contributors,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 48/191 and on possible requirements for intergovernmental and secretariat work on the implementation of the Convention and its regional annexes, 4/ and having also considered resolution 5/1 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on urgent action for Africa, 5/ in the period up to and including the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Considering the Convention one of the main steps in the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

1. Welcomes the adoption, on 17 June 1994, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and welcomes further the signing of the Convention in Paris on 14-15 October 1994 by a large number of States and one regional economic integration organization;

2/ See A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

3/ Ibid., appendix III.

4/ A/49/477.

5/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix III.

2. Urges States that have not yet signed the Convention to do so during the present session of the General Assembly and no later than 13 October 1995, in conformity with article 33 of the Convention, and urges countries and organizations that have signed the Convention to proceed to its ratification so that it may enter into force as soon as possible;

3. Invites signatories of the Convention, in addition to the information provided at the time of signature, to continue to communicate to the interim secretariat of the Convention information on actions undertaken or envisaged for the implementation of the provisions of resolution 5/1 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on urgent action for Africa; 6/

4. Decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee shall continue to function in order:

(a) To prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as specified in the Convention;

(b) To facilitate and review progress being made in the implementation of the provisions of the resolution on urgent action for Africa;

(c) To initiate measures relating to the identification of an organization to house the global mechanism for the mobilization and channelling of financial resources, including its operational modalities;

(d) To elaborate the rules of procedure of the Conference of Parties to consider all other issues, including the implementation of the Convention and its regional annexes;

5. Decides also, for this purpose, to hold, in addition to a sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, to be held in New York from 9 to 20 January 1995, a two-week session in Nairobi, from 7 to 18 August 1995, and to hold two further sessions in 1996 and one in 1997, the venue and timing of which shall be determined by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee;

6. Invites the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in this regard, to adopt and implement expeditiously a plan of work for the period leading to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and requests the Secretary-General to make arrangements within the overall calendar of conferences for the Committee to hold the forthcoming sessions;

7. Requests all countries, the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, relevant subregional and regional organizations and appropriate scientific and business communities, trade unions, relevant non-governmental organizations and other interested groups to take action for

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6/ Ibid.

the prompt implementation of the Convention and its relevant regional annexes upon its entry into force and in this regard to respond effectively to the needs of the developing regions - namely Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. Urges all countries, the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, relevant subregional and regional organizations and all other relevant actors to take actions and measures for the full and effective implementation of the provisions of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee resolution 5/1 on urgent action for Africa; 7/

9. Decides that the work of the Committee and the interim secretariat shall continue to be funded through existing United Nations budgetary resources, without negatively affecting its programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to the trust fund established, pursuant to its resolution 47/188, specifically for that purpose and administered by the head of the interim secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General, with the possibility of using the fund, as appropriate, to support the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Committee and of carrying over resources contributed from one fiscal year to the other;

10. Notes the arrangements made by the Secretary-General and the contributions of the United Nations Development Programme, including the United Nations Sahelian Office, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, and other relevant international organizations active in the fields of desertification, drought and development to the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in the conduct of its mandate, and invites them to intensify and expand such support in the future;

11. Welcomes the decision of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, following the adoption of the Convention, and in conformity with the provision of chapter 38, paragraph 27, of Agenda 21, 1/ that the Programme will support the implementation of the Convention world wide, with particular attention to Africa; and requests the Programme and the Sahelian Office to mobilize additional financial resources so as to be able to play that role more effectively;

12. Notes with appreciation the contributions made thus far to the trust fund, and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations to continue to make voluntary contributions to the fund to support the interim secretariat of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and the work of the Committee;

7/ Ibid.

13. Notes with appreciation the contributions made to the special voluntary fund established pursuant to its resolution 47/188 to assist developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries, to participate fully and effectively in the negotiating process, and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations to continue to contribute generously to the fund so as to allow those countries to participate fully and effectively in the work of the Committee;

14. Requests the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to submit progress reports on its work to the General Assembly, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other appropriate bodies of the United Nations;

15. Requests also the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations, international financial institutions, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other relevant institutions;

16. Requests further the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session a sub-item entitled "United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa" under the agenda item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".